### CHILDREN.

The eleoping echoes of her quiet room.

Are never waked by bursts of childsh gles,
And up the polished staircase never come. Light patterings of footsteps swift and free, Alone she sits and in the twilight gloom Dreams happily of what shall never bel-

Sometimes her wistful fancy straws the floor (Rich carpeted and neat) with broken toys; Paints floger prints on window glass and door, Hears echoes of shrill laughter and rude noise; All that a tired mother might deplore Would seem to her starved heart as priceless joys!

Till, from the world without, some sudden note Of childish voices through her vision rings, And sobs of anguish rise to her white throat, Round which no dimpled arm in mischlef clings; Gong are the sweet dream-fancies, as may float From earth to heaven the flash of angel wings,

And yet, no little empty crib is there To mock the mother arms, outstretched in vain, She hoards no shining tress of silken hair. No tiny grave where buried hopes He slain;" Only the deeper loss she b a to bear hers has lain. Upon whose heart no be



# A Soldier's Gratitude

First Lieutenant Robert Emmett | to return in time to say good-by to Kavanaugh was pacing up and down his flancee. his narrow quarters in Fort Grady. Michigan, holding a telegram in his hand. He had read it twenty times, but at every second turn in his nervous walk he read it again. The telegram was dated Chicago, and this is what it said: "Leave Thursday for Florida; Uncle Frank ill. Stay in-definite. Norah Desmond."

Licut. Bob Emmett and Norah Desmond were engaged. They were to be married as soon as a few accommodating superior officers would consent to be killed off or die in their beds and thereby give Bob a chance to write captain instead of lieutenant before his name on the official papers.

"Norah's going to Florida," he muttered to himself. "I haven't seen her for three weeks and won't see her for six months to come. Uncle Frank is one of the kind who never dies and who never gets well, and Norah'll stay down there until the old man is willing to let her go. She's more of a stickler for duty than Old Muggs, the commanding officer, and that's saying a lot. He won't give me a leave; I've had too many. Great Winfield Scott, but I would like to see Norah before she goes." And Lieut, Robert Emmett Kavanaugh sighed.

Bob Kavanaugh couldn't keep anything to himself, and in five minutes he was telling his woes to Capt. Percy Lanyard of the artillery corps. "Brace up, Kavanaugh," said Lanyard: "Muggs is going to send a general prisoner through Chicago to Fort Sheridan to stand trial. It isn't a very pleasant duty, but if you'll volunteer, I think Muggs will send you, and you can stop off on our way back from Fort Sheridan-it is only a few miles from Chicago-and see your blue-eyed Norah before she gets on the Florida limited."

Kavanaugh was sitting in a smoking car on a Chicago bound train, with a big Colt revolver strapped around him and an enlisted man, with a downcast look, sitting alongside of Bob Kayanaugh had a soft heart. The soldier at his side had seen eight years of service and had never been in trouble before. He had assaulted the "top" sergeant, a serious offense in the army, as may go without saying.

Twelve hours from that time Bob

Part of a freight train went into the ditch ahead of the Fort Grady



'Norah's going to Florida," he muttered to himself.

passenger train. Kavanaugh and his prisoner were delayed five hours. Finally the way was cleared and the train ran on to Chicago. It was Thursday, and in four hours Norah's train would leave for Florida. It was got his prisoner to Fort Sheridan and care of."

Kavanaugh and his charge stepped from the train into the Chicago depot. Bob's heart was sore. "I must see her," he said to himself. "I can't stand it for six months." At that instant he saw at the depot cigar stand, making a purchase, Jack Bacon, a



"I took a shot at him.

Chicago club man, and an intimate friend. Kavanaugh hurried his charge over toward the young fellow. "Jack, old man, glad to see you. You have an hour or two to spare, I know you have; don't say no," and with this the licutement grabbed his friend by the arm, motioned his prisoner to walk ahead, and the three went on a half trot into the office of a hotel across the street. Kavanaugh threw a \$2 biil before the clerk and ordered a room. He hurried the astounded Jack Bacon and the prisoner into the apartment on the second floor.

"Jack," said Kavanaugh, in a low tone, "as you love me, watch this man, I must see Norah Desmond She's off for Florida. Take this gut and don't fail me," and with that First Lieutenant Robert Emmett Kavanaugh shoved a revolver into Jack Bacon's hand, bolted through the door out of the hotel and on to a trolley car. In twenty minutes he was with Norah Desmond, who was in the midst of the last hour of preparation for her Florida trip.

In twenty minutes more the door bell of the flat rang violently. The maid opened it, and in rushed Jack Bacon, flushed and fairly beside himself, "Bob," he yelled, "your prisoner skipped. He kicked open a door into the next room and jumped onto a low roof and then into the alley. I took a pot shot at him, but missed, and

when I got down he was clean gone." Bob Kavanaugh sank into a chair, his face pale. "Norah," he said, "this means court-martial and dismissal for me unless I can catch the fellow. It's a clean case of neglect of duty. It's all up, dear, if I don't get him, and if I'm kicked out of the army I don't know what I'll do. But this won't catch him. I'm off, but I'll be at the train to say good-bye, and Kavanaugh was out of the door and down the stairs four steps at a time.

Over on Halsted street in a room above a store a pretty, pale girl sat talking to a soldler in uniform. "It's all up. Polly," he was saying. "I hit the 'top' sergeant. He deserved it, but I was put in arrest and was to be tried, and it meant two years. I just cut away from a 'clt' whom the ntterly impossible for the officer to officer who had me in tow left me in

"Oh, this is awful, Jim," said the girl, "and you'll be a deserter, too," "I won't get any more for that than I'll get for the other." Then suddenly changing the subject the soldier

asked: "How's your mother?" "Better, Jim, but she'd have died if it hadn't been for Miss Norah Desmond. She's an angel. I had to stop work to nurse mother, and the money gave out and I got sick, and Miss Norah gave us a nurse and a doctor and did lots else. I think she saved my life, too."

"Norah Desmond, Polly? the name of the girl the lieutenant I cut from is to marry. He'll be disgraced and the girl will suffer. She saved you and your mother, did she, Polly. Get on your things, quick. She leaves for Florids. I know the train. The lieutenant 'll be there, I know that. Hurry, girl."

Lieut. Robert Emmett Kavanaugh was kissing Norah Desmond good-by. Just then from behind him came a voice laud and with something of a ring of humor in it. "Sir, all are present and accounted for." Kavanaugh turned like a flash. There stood Private Spencer saluting with his right hand, while his left was holding that of a very pretty girl.

"Spencer, you're a brick," " said Kavanaugh, and nothing but army training kept him from slapping his inferior on the back. "I'll use every official friend I have to get you out of your scrape."

A year later in pleasant quarters at Fort Grady sat Capt. Kavanaugh and his wife. "Norah," he said, "First Sergeant James Spencer has applied for a furlough to go to Chicago to get married. Shall I approve the appli-

"Bob, if you don't," said Norah, with her eyes dancing, "i'll get a divorce."

## STRENUOUS LIFE IN NAVY.

Trophies and Athletic Equipment for Jackies of the Missouri.

The strenuous life is now extending to the navy and at a quick pace. Some time ago Secretary Moody, as a result of a conversation with the President, promulgated an order authorizing the issue to any ship whose commander should report to the department that his crew has a welldeveloped athletic organization, of certain sporting paraphernalia appropriate to the character of certain games in which the men excel, and of a series of prizes or trophies for which they may contend. This has been acted upon by the battleship Missouri, with the result that orders have been issued for her equipment with two punching bags, twenty-four baseballs, four footballs, twelve bats, tweive broadswords, six sets of eightounce boxing gloves, six sets of fencing foils, twenty-four ball-players' suits, and an adequate supply of masks, gloves, protectors, etc., for all probable requirements. The suits are to have the name of the ship across the breasts of the shirts.

This move has been made, not only in the belief that athletic exercises are good for the men who indulge in them, but that the interest exerted by competition between the ships' crews in manly sports will tend to take the place of less wholesome entertainments when the men are ashore. The pride of each ship in its own crack sportsmen will add to the esprit de corps and the hope is that the moral tone of the whole navy will be raised by the new plan in spite of occasional abuses which will doubtless be inevitable.-New York Post.

### To Face a Concert.

When the low music makes a dusk of sound.

About us, and the viol of far-off horn Swells out above it like a wind fortorn, That wanders, seeking something never What phantom in your brain, on what

dim ground. Traces its shadowy lines? What vister-Of unfulfillment, fades in mere sel.

SCOTD.

Or grows, from that still twilight stealing round? When the lids droop and the hands lie

unstrung.
Dure one divine your dream, while the chords weave Their cloudy woof from key to key and

die.It is one fate that, since the world was oung. Had followed man, and made him half The voice of instruments a human cry!

A Physical Impossibility. David Warfield was playing recently in "The Auctioneer" in a Western city, where the part of Levi attracted

a group of giggling seminary girls. They admired his acting, and scribbling their names on a program, wrote underneath: "May we see you apart?" When the message was delivered.

Warfield was taking off his "make-up." He seized a red pencil, one of his 'props" in the auction scene, and dashed off the following raply on the same program:

"Many thanks. Don't come apart Was born in one piece."-New York

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Rose Gles, Pa., March 29, 1903.—The free trial of Doan's Kidney Pills have been of great benefit to me. Since using them I have no oc-casion to get up so often at night. My com-plaint affected the bladder more when catching cold.-Joseph Lepperal.

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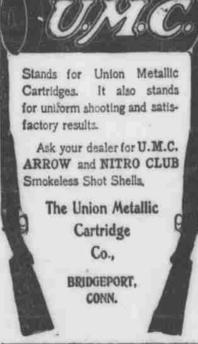
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